



Mishawaka Communicator



Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life and inspiring pride in our community.

Dave Wood, Mayor

www.mishawaka.in.gov

January 2017

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



A long-time friend and colleague, Director of Engineering Gary West, recently retired from the City of Mishawaka. Gary was appointed as the Director of Engineering by former Mayor Robert Beutter on January 1, 1984 and has also served as Deputy Mayor under former Mayor Jeff Rea and myself. Gary retired from the City of Mishawaka on November 30, 2016 after a long-distinguished 32-year career.

Gary West has been responsible for Mishawaka's growth and development more than any other single public servant in City history. You cannot drive anywhere in the City of Mishawaka that has not been influenced by him. As a member and President of the Board of Public Works and Safety, Gary has been instrumental in so many City of Mishawaka projects during his tenure that it is difficult to account for all of them. He was the co-creator of the TIF program in the City of Mishawaka which has played an important role in the development in our community. Gary shepherded the City's Sewer Insurance Program providing sewer insurance to Mishawaka citizens saving countless homeowners from potentially catastrophic losses since its inception in 1986. He was instrumental in the oversight of the wastewater treatment plant, water plant and sewer department expansions making them leaders in the State of Indiana for their cutting-edge equipment and high standards. Many City of Mishawaka departments look to Gary for guidance and leadership on projects that could not possibly have been done without it. He knows virtually everything about City of Mishawaka government and has bestowed that knowledge on many. In fact, most of the current Department Managers are thankful for the guidance and knowledge that Gary has given them.

Gary never let anyone push the City of Mishawaka around and had to make many unpopular decisions; he always did what was best for the City. He kept the engineers, consultants and contractors honest and while they may not have agreed with what he had to say, they always respected him. You knew where you stood with Gary; he did not beat around the bush.

The sheer magnitude of the projects that Gary has overseen is simply amazing. Gary has always come in on time with projects and in many cases, delivered them early. For example, the Canadian National Main Street Underpass from inception to completion took four years to build when it could

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Staying Hydrated Is Easy...And Beneficial!

Health Information from Saint Joseph Health System

There's a simple thing you can do to improve your health, because it involves something that comes right from your kitchen faucet. Drink more water.

Water is one of the most important — yet overlooked — nutrients and delivers a host of calorie-free benefits. It makes up more than two-thirds of the weight of your body. All your cells and organs need water to function. It lubricates your joints. It regulates your body temperature through perspiration. It helps energize muscles and power kidneys by giving them proper fluid balance. It also helps prevent and relieve constipation by moving food through your intestines. It can even keep your skin looking good.

You get some water through the foods you eat, including liquid foods and beverages such as soup, milk and juices. Your body makes some water during the process of metabolism. But drinking water is your main, and best, source of water.

Although there is no research to identify the exact amount of water you should drink, experts usually recommend drinking six to eight glasses of water (8 ounces each) daily. To accomplish this, make sure to drink plenty of fluids with every meal and snack. Keep a bottle of water with you in the car and at work so you can drink throughout the day. And eat more fruits and vegetables, because their high water content will aid hydration.

Drinking more water is a great, low-cost way to fuel your body and keep you healthy. For more information on how to stay hydrated, talk to your primary care provider.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Jan 14 DJ Night (Merrifield Ice Rink)
- Jan 17 Veterans Appreciation Night (Merrifield Ice Rink)
- Jan 25 Brunch/Classic Movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's" (Battell Center)
- Feb 10 Dinner and a Movie "Radio" (Battell Center)
- Feb 11 DJ Night (Merrifield Ice Rink)
- Feb 14 Couples Skate (Merrifield Ice Rink)
- Feb 17 Parents' Night Out! (Battell Center)
- Feb 21 Veterans Appreciation Night (Merrifield Ice Rink)
- Feb 22 Brunch/Classic Movie "My Fair Lady" (Battell Center)
- Feb 24 Daddy / Daughter Dance (Battell Center)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

IRS-certified VITA tax preparers will prepare and e-file your taxes for FREE!

CALL 2-1-1 to schedule your appointment or schedule online at

www.uwsjc.org/vita.html

ONLINE ACCESS



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A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

have taken as many as eight years. The 10-foot Sarah Street storm tunnel (30 ft. down) which ran from the river to Normain Park (approximately one mile) took three years to complete. One of Gary's largest accomplishments was providing the infrastructure to turn the corn fields of northern Mishawaka into Indiana's largest shopping region; the Edison Lakes Park Business Corridor. He was responsible for a two-mile lift station from St. Joseph Regional Medical Center to the river and the Long-Term Control Plan in the Milburn Boulevard area. Gary's motto, "Give me a budget and I will get it done". Gary can and always has gotten things done!

Gary has been involved in the community in many different aspects both personally and professionally. Gary served as President of the Osceola Little League, President and Board Member of the Taper Lock Credit Union, Member of the Mishawaka 4-H Club, and was a model building and model rocketry coordinator for ten years. He has served on many committees for School City of Mishawaka; the most notable was when they were combining the two middle schools in our City, Beiger and John Young Middle School. He was also involved with the choosing of the new mascot for these two schools; one that would represent both schools and our City proudly. Gary has been instrumental in the safe route to school programs in our City. If there have been projects in a school area, Gary has made sure that the City has worked with the schools to ensure that every student is safe. He has frugally managed City funds and has worked tirelessly for the last 32 years to ensure that he has had a positive influence on his colleagues and all that he has encountered during his career. He has left the City of Mishawaka a better place!

Chris Jamrose Appointment

With the retirement of Gary West, Christine Jamrose has been appointed to the position of City Engineer/Director of Engineering, effective December 1, 2016.

The position of City Engineer has the authority and responsibility to develop plans, specifications, administration of project bidding, construction administration, and final project acceptance through the Board of Public Works and Safety. The City Engineer provides technical support to the Engineering Department staff, several City Departments, Mishawaka Utilities, and maintains the relationships with adjacent local governments.

Ms. Jamrose graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and is a Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Indiana. She began her professional career working several years for a civil/environmental engineering consulting firm before joining the City of Mishawaka in 1994 and serving as the City's Assistant Director of Engineering for the past 22 years. During this tenure, Ms. Jamrose has been integral to the successful expansion that Mishawaka has experienced through consistent and steady guidance to private property development from residential subdivisions to commercial development within the Main Street and Grape Road corridors. She has been an invaluable support for multiple City right-of-way projects such as railroad underpasses, Sarah Street storm water tunnel, St. Joseph Regional Hospital utility and street infrastructure, Milburn Area and Mishawaka Avenue improvements. She has also represented the City on many intergovernmental committees & projects. Her dedication, knowledge, and history will afford consistency going forward.

The City of Mishawaka owes a great debt of gratitude to Gary West. Part of his legacy, besides leaving Mishawaka and its infrastructure in a great place, is the positive influence he had on his colleagues and peers throughout the City and especially through developing future leaders such as Chris Jamrose. Quite simply, Gary and Chris have put Mishawaka in a great position going forward and Chris is ready to step up and lead Mishawaka's infrastructure needs in an ever-changing world.

Mayor Dave Wood

Mishawaka Code Enforcement

Please be aware of the following violations:

- *Trash, garbage or recycling containers left upon the sidewalk, the area between a street and sidewalk, or the front or side yard, except for **24 hours** immediately before and after trash collection.*
- *After any snowfall, the owner or occupant shall remove the snow or cause it to be removed from the sidewalks adjacent to the lot or parcel of land within 24 hours after the snowfall.*

The City of Mishawaka will always work with residents to resolve any issues that may impact the way we live and operate within our city. While the Street Department has been doing a tremendous job removing the snow from our streets and we at Code Enforcement are sympathetic to your situation, we still have the responsibility to ensure that the sidewalks are passable for pedestrians so they do not have to walk into traffic with vehicles. Our officers are requesting that at least a pathway on the sidewalk is cleared to allow for safe passage for our residents and school children. We thank you for your help in this matter and your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (574) 258-1612.



Merrifield Ice Rink

(574) 258-1665

Open Skate Hours

Tue	4pm - 8pm
Thu	10am - 2pm
Fri (<i>Family Night</i>)	3pm - 8pm
Sat/Sun	12pm - 4pm 4:30pm - 9pm

*Weather Permitting
Please Call Ahead*